

FASCISM MARCHES ON

We will never defeat and destroy fascism until we recognize that its roots are grounded deep in the subsoil of private enterprise, private property and the Price System, and until we have the courage to establish a technological control of our social mechanism.

TO say that 'fascism marches on' is tantamount to saying that 'war marches on.'

After all, fascism is a perpetual war against social progress—a systematic conspiracy in which politics, business and the church join forces to prevent social change. The direction which this war takes may be in the path of military operations and actual shooting, resulting in an external explosion. This is called 'international war.' Or it may take the direction of repression and slow death of an overpopulous people forced to live in perpetual scarcity, resulting in an internal explosion. This is called 'civil war.' Either way, fascism and war are natural corollaries because one needs the other, and they feed upon one another.

The shooting has ended in the bloodiest and costliest war in all the history of the world. Besides the hundreds of billions of dollars represented by precious resources never to be available again, the world suffered a loss of a probable fifty million citizens—to say nothing of the maimed, crippled, blinded and stunted—in order to defeat the fascist coalition of Axis powers. Yet, fascism is today rampant all over the world.

Look at the map. There are fascistic regimes in Spain, in Portugal, Argentina, Brazil. The growing strength of fascism in Italy, Bavaria and Austria is admitted by all observers. Fascism is incipient in China. There is active fighting still raging in China, Indonesia, Greece, Italy and Jugoslavia.

Either we didn't fight with a will to defeat and destroy the fascist enemies, or we lost sight of who our enemies were. Whichever way we look at it, something serious is amiss, and the times cry out for an appraisal of what fascism is; why it still exists during the victorious peace; and what we can do to combat and destroy it now. Unless we first find out what it is, we shall never be able to discover why it still exists or what to do about it.

Fascism can best be defined as the consolidation of all the minor political, economic and ecclesiastical controls within a national area into a single, major control. This may be accomplished voluntarily on the part of all the existing controllers through a conspiracy against the national welfare, or involuntarily by the imposition of physical force against all those who refuse to go along or protest against the conspiracy. Such a

consolidation results in the establishment of a single, tripartite, authoritarian control. Either a businessman, a politician, a royal personage or a priestly figure is then called upon to take over, and all three segments of the prior existing controls—such as the political, economic and ecclesiastical—swear allegiance in return for a protection of their preferential position. The protection is furnished them by a freezing of the status quo, so that no change in position or authority can take place without the consent of the tripartite, authoritarian head.

Examine the history of Hitler in Germany, Mussolini in Italy, Franco in Spain, Salazar in Portugal, Hirohito in Japan. In all of those countries, business and the dominant church aided and abetted the introduction of fascism. In all of them, the financial wherewithal came from the business world, and the religious world furnished its blessing. The atrocities, the crimes and the murders of millions of innocent people are the responsibility of the businessmen and the churchmen—just as much as they are the responsibility of the Hitlers and the Mussolinis who conspired to bring about fascism as a bulwark against social change. The people of those ravished countries know these facts far better than we. Left to their own resources, they would know what to do to prevent a recurrence of such events. But, subjugated and under the domination of occupying troops like ours, they are impotent.

So, we are confronted with the awful spectacle of the American armed forces first serving to defeat the armies of fascism, and then turning about to prevent the destruction of fascism itself by maintaining a continuance of the old law and order—which was what we fought to destroy. It is more than coincidence and less than historical accident that the United States of America, which claims to be anti-fascist, has aligned itself with both friendly and enemy nations which are notoriously and self-admittedly fascist.

THE CARTEL SYSTEM

When we analyze further, we find that the newly-established setup called fascism is merely the glorification of the cartel system—the end product of all successful business and political practices. Under cartelism, the field of activity is consolidated and divided up among all the collaborating participants. And, war, either business or military war, is then declared on all non-conformists.

What is the rubber cartel, the tin cartel, the steel cartel, the munitions cartel, the oil cartel, or any one of a host of cartels, except a ganging up of the dominant and powerful individual enterprises within a certain industry against all the remaining small-fry and weaker competitors in order to take over their businesses? The cartels can give acres to our Capones and other gangland racketeers and still outplay them. They have a remote heritage. They are the direct descendants of the robber barons of the Middle Ages, crossed and bred with the Borgias and Machiavellis of Italian fame, plus some

inbreeding with the Caesarian practices of incest, poison, murder and arson.

Fascism's more identifiable characteristics are race superiority and inferiority, class distinctions, the inferior status of women, morality of toil, restricted education for the perpetuation of superstition and ignorance, human toil and hand-tool scarcity and conjunctive opulence and poverty.

Yes, fascism is war! But, wars are never engaged in except for national necessity. Therefore, fascism occurs only in areas where the ratio between population and resources is so out of balance as to make scarcity perpetual. What else but the equivalence of war among the people of a nation or the military aggression against another people can result from such perpetual circumstances? The introduction of fascism here at home might well mean a decimation of half the population because fascism must have perpetual scarcity. Such reasons as 'borderline incidents,' 'small nations' rights,' 'democratic rights and liberties' are mere pretenses, as obviously wars are never engaged in except to round out the fundamental need of a balance between population and resources.

Because the problems of the United States have never been caused by a lack of resources, we have built up for ourselves the reputation of peace and friendliness. This is all to the good; yet, commercially, we are the most aggressive nation in the world. Our needs within the Price System framework are for trade and customers, not territory and resources. The 'good neighbor policy' in Central and South America is just the old dollar diplomacy with a fancier label. Our 'good neighbors' to the south—certainly not democratic in the sense that we would impose upon the world—have proved themselves wonderfully appreciative of our grants, loans and bounties. How neighborly! Uncle Sucker is a fitting name for the dispenser of this fancier dollar diplomacy. But how long can we go on winning friends and influencing people by hand-outs in the face of our vanishing resources?

A LOOK AT OUR RECORD

Let us be honest and recognize that we are instinctively as warlike as any other human beings. After all, most of us in the United States are only one or more generations removed from the Europeans. Nor did we altogether acquire our territory west of the Mississippi and south of the Colorado entirely by peaceful penetration. We treated the original Americans—the Indians—as pariahs by denying them the right of citizenship. We feared such rights would enable them to utilize the democratic privileges we want to foist on people in areas controlled by others, whom we in turn consider undemocratic.

We complain loudly about denials of 'freedom' and 'democratic rights' abroad, yet we are guilty as sin at home. In the occupied areas in Europe, we are still engaged in

'passing the buck' regarding the restoration of personal rights to the Jews and other displaced persons. In Greece, we are party to the greatest voting fraud in present day Europe. In the Philippines, we are supplying a Jap collaborationist government with loans and military personnel to repress the aspirations of the Islanders for social change.

Is it correct that the only way to prevent our present standard of living—low and miserable as it is—from falling lower, is to send large quantities of goods away from this Continent? Surely two minus one is not three. Is it correct that we cannot exist without private enterprise which depends upon foreign trade? If ever a nation suffered from a psychosis, it is our nation.

Nobody ever states it that way—but that's exactly what it adds up to. Our policy toward Hungary, fascistic to the core under Admiral Horthy before the war, and partially democratized since the war by the Russians, is now described as "open American wooing away from the Soviets because it offers a better chance for the return of western capital and influence than the Rumanians or Bulgarians."

If competition is the life of trade, and trade is essential to the Price System, then the end of the road for Price System, private enterprise must inevitably be war, because competition is merely a continuous war under rules. The next most logical outcome of continuing business competition is either cartels or monopolies. Then one contestant takes over the power to make the rules himself. The results are a familiar historical pattern—two world wars in one generation, with the third one coming up for the same generation if we permit ourselves to be propagandized into it. In the game of competition for a scarcity, no holds are barred, and no amount of rule-making, in the form of laws, legislative enactments and conventions, will do away with stealing, bribery, graft, corruption, conspiracy, sabotage, treason and war.

Possessed of any slight chance of victory in a military conflict, a people living in an area in which the resources are out of balance with the population will always venture forth, because the human would still rather die fighting than give up the fight and die.

FASCISM IN MANY GUISES

To prevent fascism on the North American Continent and to root it out wherever it abounds, we must be able to recognize it through all disguises. It will not walk up and introduce itself by name in an honest, straightforward manner. It generally comes calling incognito, and one of its chief characteristics is emotionalized propaganda, lying and deception. Altogether too easily do we forget the Belgian propaganda of World War I and the anti-Soviet propaganda before World War II. We were told by so-called business and political authorities that the Soviets would not last six weeks against the Germans. We were told that the Russian people would rebel and overthrow their government.

Now, we are being treated to another dose of anti-Soviet propaganda, although it has taken one full year to pervert the friendship the American people and soldiers felt for the Russian people and soldiers. The war desperados knew that their first task was to destroy that friendship and so far, with the aid and connivance of press and radio, they appear to be doing a thorough job.

Fascism will arrive in many guises and come recommended by the 'best' people, as was the case in Italy and Germany. In fact, only the 'best' people will play host to it and prefer it because another one of its characteristics is a freezing of the status quo, through which the 'best' people alone can gain. All other people—the underprivileged, the unemployed, the underpaid workers, the harassed union men, the professional men, the whitecollar workers, the small businessmen on the fringe of bankruptcy—have everything to lose from a freezing of their existing status.

A fascist can always be potent when he controls economic power. Fascism cannot be destroyed by merely changing personnel, or the name of the fascist. Does it matter that the power be shifted from Mr. Big to Mr. Second Big, or from Mr. German to Mr. American within a continuing fascist economy? Freely circulating economic controls, in the form of money and securities, easily find a transmission belt. The lines are never completely cut, no matter how hacked up they may get. Little Switzerland has served as the repository for every criminal and indicted fascist to salt away his criminally-acquired gains.

Private enterprise always manages one free spot in the world where the economic controls can be shifted around for an understanding between conspirators. The deals are arranged behind the scenes—not on the stage or in the newspapers. How many blacklisted corporations and businessmen, through pull and connections, have been unblocked, restored to the white list and re-established in business by arranging understandings with friendly disposed American and British gentlemen? How many American and British corporations and businessmen, who had ties with the German, Italian and Japanese cartels, are still free to place their funds and resources where it will do the most good to re-establish and continue those ties? And their 'good' is automatically the harm of this nation, as it was before the war.

Otherwise, there would be no incentive in the whole game. Switzerland is notorious for its protection of anonymity to any and every property owner, fascist or non-fascist. In the face of this kind of a game, how can we expect to destroy the economic power of fascism without a cut at the throat of property succession, regardless of who the record owner is?

THE ROOTS OF FASCISM

There is a way to tear fascism up by the roots, but it requires determination and singlemindedness of purpose, which is the antithesis of the so-called democratic, libertarian process. It will never be accomplished by chopping off the heads of war criminals. Let us not lightly forget that we had war trials after World War I and even before that. We have also had trials for murder, arson and stealing for thousands of years; we have had laws against every conceivable human frailty and weakness. Yet, neither the old laws, nor the new laws, can possibly prevent the continuance of murder, arson and stealing. It is one thing to set up a punishment to fit the crime, but it is still another thing to root out the possibility of crime. By what manner of reasoning can we be asked, therefore, to rely upon the method of trying persons on an individual responsibility basis for acts which cannot be performed except on a collective basis? When do we stop behaving like Jekylls and Hydes?

Say what you will about the political democracy of voting, the fact remains that any system requiring approval by a mass agglomeration of heterogeneous views and prejudices is inherently split down the middle, self-opposing, contradictory and, therefore, inconsistent and hypocritical. How can we expect anything more than a deification of collective irresponsibility? This way leads only to the perpetuation of the game, no matter how often the players change or fall by the wayside. Yet, the game itself predetermines that only a few shall be the winners.

The roots of fascism are grounded deep in the private property and free enterprise system of conducting our society. No individual fascist can conspire and plot the advancement of himself at the expense of the national welfare, nor can he plot the destruction of a competitor and the betrayal of his nation, without money and property as tools to carry out his nefarious activities. Yes, we can root out fascism, but it will require giving up the shibboleth of private property and free enterprise as well. We can't have it both ways. We cannot destroy the fascist monster, which is the end product of free and private enterprise, by going to war on a crusade to protect and install private enterprise all over the world.

WHAT IS OUR POLICY?

The present trend would appear to indicate we have chosen to march on to war with fascism, rather than without it to peace. The other day the Associated Press reported that James Farley had interviewed the Pope, the political as well as the spiritual head of the Roman Catholic Church, and found him to be in agreement with Secretary of State Byrnes' policy at Paris. Apropos, one must ask, just what is the Byrnes' policy? A policy of acting tough to the Russians may be very suitable to the avowed enemy of so-called godless communism, but does it suit the needs and aspirations of the American people?

Whenever a man of the cloth, no matter how high or low his apostolic position,

descends into the sawdust arena of a Caesar and politics, he must be ready to meet with political methods.

The most charitable description of these repeated interviews and remarks are that they are presumptuous. Every Roman Catholic in this world already has representation at the conference in Paris by virtue of citizenship in the national area in which he lives. For the Pope to assert himself as the head of more than 300,000,000 Catholics, is, therefore, to deal in double representation.

Every man, by virtue of being born of woman, is human, and when he interferes with or injects himself into political matters, he must be prepared to defend himself on political grounds. So let us not here be side-tracked with the ballyhoo of freedom of religion every time a religionist is attacked for non-religious behavior.

We call our foreign policy bipartisan, because Mr. Byrnes took along with him to Paris both the republican and democratic leaders of the foreign relations committee of the Senate of the United States. Actually, it is more than bipartisan, it is quadripartisan, because it parallels the foreign policy of both Great Britain and the Vatican as well. Although the Pope does not sit as a member of the American delegation, his presence is ever felt in the guise of roving ambassadors such as James Farley, papal chamberlain. Farley is credited with the firing of Henry Wallace, who in turn has been called by Catholic diocese papers "a too friendly supporter of communism and owner of a philosophy shot through and through with profound immorality."

Through the person of J. F. Dulles, advisor to the Republican Party on Foreign Affairs, and proponent of parallel action for all Protestant Churches with the Vatican, we are actually embarked on a London-Rome-Washington policy.

The explanation for the emphasis upon the role of the Vatican in this march toward fascism is that fascism would come to us under many guises, particularly the vestments of a priest, because he is considered sacrosanct. There is more than coincidence in the occurrence of fascism in Austria under Dolfuss, Spain under Franco, Portugal under Salazar, France under Petain, Slovakia under Tiso, Croatia under Pavelich.

This is not a quarrel with any one religious group, but a warning to all religious organizations—Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, Mohammedan, Buddhist—to stay out of politics, particularly where the civilization of the world is concerned, unless they are ready to face the grave responsibility of their ideas as politicians and not hide behind the skirts of priestly garments.

Palestine, too, has many of the earmarks of a Jewish fascism if the Jewish religion

continues to get itself tangled up with the political question. The Arabs are still carrying on a Mohammedan fascism. Shinto fascism in Japan is far from defeated and destroyed even though the Japanese armies are.

BACK TO 1618?

The Thirty Years' War of 1618-1648 was fought chiefly to establish the civil rights and privileges of non-Catholics to hold office, army rank and conduct business without prejudice. The Treaty of Westphalia confirmed this. Hitler always said that, if he won a victory, he would take Europe back, not only to the Treaty of Versailles, but to the Treaty of Westphalia as well. He failed to win.

Are we now being readied to complete his dirty work in other guises? Are we being prepared and propagandized into fighting a more devastating war than the recent one to complete Hitler's promise to take Europe back to 1618?

How else can we explain our provocative maneuvers in Alaska at this particularly delicate time, while we are charging the Russians with everything in the book? Equity Court has a saying: "He who does not come to equity with clean hands, cannot be given equity." Well, what an unwelcome contrast is the behavior today to that in 1940 of our military authorities who responded to Technocracy's warnings about Alaska's exposed position to the Japs with precisely nothing, with the result of near calamity to the Aleutians.

The point of this whole discussion is that the entire war psychosis is directed at one nation, Russia, a nation which has no more reason to be militarily aggressive than we have, because she has achieved a favorable balance between resources and populations, because she is bled dry and will need decades to rebuild herself, and because she has nothing to gain from military adventure. Of what profit is the capture of an area which has more people than resources unless the conqueror is embarked on a policy of destroying certain populations considered sub-human or inferior? One must admit that the worst that can be said against Russia is that she has evidenced no such policy or program any more than we have. We have the Atom bomb and proclaim our peaceful intentions. Why we, any more than they?

Take heed! The time is not far off, when all those opposed to a war—and such a war can be carried out only against Russia—will be called everything from communist to godless atheist, merely because they take the position of opposing war against Russia to protect the welfare of this country and this Continent. This whole issue will be twisted and distorted into a crusade, perhaps one of religious freedom—something on the order of the crusades of the Middle Ages. Every student of history today knows how much freedom of religion was at stake in those crusades, which were carried out by a

European authoritarian control that was as intolerant of religious freedom as anything conceivable—a control which originated the inquisition, the torture rack, etc. Let us not forget that that authoritarian control which dominated Europe in the Middle Ages still dominates many governments of Europe today.

Business and politics stand exposed as futile and as corrupt in the face of our modern problems. They will resort to the use of any agency that will hold out some promise of protecting their position. They will most assuredly again resort to an ecclesiastical control here in the United States, as they did in every instance in Europe, before they give up the ghost.

We will never defeat and destroy fascism until we first recognize that its roots are grounded deep in the subsoil of private enterprise, private property and the Price System. It is a difficult thing to make up our minds. But until we do so and decide to establish and install a technological control through a total conscription, nobody in the wide world can foretell the future of even the next six months. This is not communism, nor fascism, nor any other 'ism.' If it must be called an 'ism,' then its true name is 'scientism.' If the American people want to continue living under an intolerable uncertainty, then they will have no one to blame but themselves.

—Ralph Janis

<https://archive.org/details/TheTechnocrat-November1946>